Message

From: Gutro, Doug [Gutro.Doug@epa.gov]
Sent: 10/17/2018 8:23:03 PM
To: Nicole.Gibeau@international.gc.ca; Wintrob, Paul [Wintrob.Paul@epa.gov]
CC: morgan.whalen@canada.ca; Danielle.Chesky@international.gc.ca; guy.letourneau@canada.ca; arash.shahsavarani@canada.ca; SoR@state.gov; LocklearL@state.gov; hilljj@state.gov; DunlapEM@state.gov; Katchinoff, Julien M [katchinoffjm@state.gov]; Teel, Pam [Teel.Pam@epa.gov]; Spejewski, Andrew [Spejewski.Andrew@epa.gov]; Abele, Ralph [abele.ralph@epa.gov]; Weitzler, Ellen [Weitzler.Ellen@epa.gov]; Voorhees, Jeanne [voorhees.jeanne@epa.gov]; Felicia.Minotti@international.gc.ca; steve.cobham@canada.ca
Subject: RE: Sep 19 Lake Memphremagog Call - technical questions follow-up (Status Update)

Nicole –

There is a lot to get right here. Please know that we are coordinating very closely with EPA's Office of International Activities in Washington DC and with the State of Vermont and our plan is to get back you by the end of October.

Doug Gutro
Director of Public Affairs
US EPA
5 Post Office Square Suite 100
Boston MA 02109
(617) 918-1021
Fax (617) 918-0021

From: Nicole.Gibeau@international.gc.ca [mailto:Nicole.Gibeau@international.gc.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2018 12:08 PM
To: Wintrob, Paul <Wintrob.Paul@epa.gov>
Cc: morgan.whalen@canada.ca; Danielle.Chesky@international.gc.ca; guy.letourneau@canada.ca; arash.shahsavarani@canada.ca; SoR@state.gov; LocklearL@state.gov; hilljj@state.gov; DunlapEM@state.gov; Katchinoff, Julien M <katchinoffjm@state.gov>; Teel, Pam <Teel.Pam@epa.gov>; Spejewski, Andrew <Spejewski.Andrew@epa.gov>; Gutro, Doug <Gutro.Doug@epa.gov>; Abele, Ralph <abele.ralph@epa.gov>; Weitzler, Ellen <Weitzler.Ellen@epa.gov>; Voorhees, Jeanne <voorhees.jeanne@epa.gov>; Felicia.Minotti@international.gc.ca; steve.cobham@canada.ca
Subject: RE: Sep 19 Lake Memphremagog Call - technical questions follow-up (Status Update)

Hi Paul,

There have been a few major developments on the Coventry landfill front, generating additional inquiries here.

You may be aware that the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources issued a permit for the Coventry Landfill last Friday. https://anrweb.vt.gov/PubDocs/DEC/SolidWaste/OL510/OL510.2018.10.12%20%20Final%20Certification.pdf (note that a preliminary scan of the permit issued indicates PFAS testing will be required).

Also note this article, published today, indicating that the Newport municipal council passed a resolution yesterday to stop treating leachate at its municipal treatment plant: https://www.latribune.ca/8c6ac4744d4b0d078b0d04bbbc7f3dca. Any information you can share about both of these developments would be very helpful.

Given these developments, we were hoping you would be able to provide responses to our questions. We remain very interested in learning about the next steps, including opportunities for party and public comment, in the Vermont Act

Not for Public Distribution

250 process as well as other the permitting requirements before the expansion can proceed (e.g., are the updated pre-treatment and WWTF discharge permits required before the expansion can proceed? Are there any other requirements that must be met before proceeding?).

Additionally, more information about the classification of the lake, as indicated in our last email exchange, remains of interest to us.

Thanks again for your help. It's very much appreciated.

Nicole

From: Gibeau, Nicole -NGB
Sent: October-05-18 4:53 PM
To: 'Wintrob, Paul'
Cc: morgan.whalen@canada.ca; Chesky, Danielle -WSHDC -EN; guy.letourneau@canada.ca; arash.shahsavarani@canada.ca; SoR@state.gov; LocklearL@state.gov; hilljj@state.gov; DunlapEM@state.gov; Katchinoff, Julien M; Teel, Pam; Spejewski, Andrew; Gutro, Doug; Abele, Ralph; Weitzler, Ellen; Voorhees, Jeanne; Williams, Ann
Subject: RE: Sep 19 Lake Memphremagog Call - technical questions follow-up (Status Update)

Hi Paul,

Thank you for the update. We appreciate your help looking into our questions and look forward to the responses.

One additional inquiry: we would be curious to know a bit more about Vermont's water classification system as it relates to public water sources, e.g. what is the difference, in allowable activities and protection afforded, between a Class A(2) public water source and a Class B(2) public water source? Are all waters which are used as public drinking water sources for U.S. municipalities classified as Class A(2), or are there examples of waters used by municipalities for public drinking water which are classified as Class B(2)?

Thanks for looking into this, and enjoy the long weekend,

Nicole

From: Wintrob, Paul [mailto:Wintrob.Paul@epa.gov]
Sent: October-05-18 2:17 PM
To: Gibeau, Nicole -NGB
Cc: morgan.whalen@canada.ca; Chesky, Danielle -WSHDC -EN; guy.letourneau@canada.ca; arash.shahsavarani@canada.ca; SoR@state.gov; LocklearL@state.gov; hilljj@state.gov; DunlapEM@state.gov; Katchinoff, Julien M; Teel, Pam; Spejewski, Andrew; Gutro, Doug; Abele, Ralph; Weitzler, Ellen; Voorhees, Jeanne; Williams, Ann
Subject: RE: Sep 19 Lake Memphremagog Call - technical questions follow-up (Status Update)

Good Afternoon Nicole:

Just wanted to update you and your colleagues on our progress. This week we've have been in touch with our colleagues at Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, and they are working to pull together responses to your questions. As soon as they get back to, us we'll coordinate with Pam Teel (EPA OITA) and Julien Katchinoff (State) and get back to you.

Hope all is well.

Let me know if you have any follow-up questions. I'll be out of the office on Monday, but back in on Tuesday, Oct 9.

Best Regards,

Not for Public Distribution

Paul
617.918.1514

From: Wintrob, Paul
Sent: Wednesday, September 26, 2018 12:17 PM
To: 'Nicole.Gibeau@international.gc.ca' <Nicole.Gibeau@international.gc.ca>
Cc: morgan.whalen@canada.ca; Danielle.Chesky@international.gc.ca; guy.letourneau@canada.ca; arash.shahsavarani@canada.ca; SoR@state.gov; LocklearL@state.gov; hilljj@state.gov; DunlapEM@state.gov; Katchinoff, Julien M <katchinoffjm@state.gov>; Teel, Pam <Teel.Pam@epa.gov>; Spejewski, Andrew <Spejewski.Andrew@epa.gov>; Gutro, Doug <Gutro.Doug@epa.gov>; Abele, Ralph <abele.ralph@epa.gov>; Weitzler, Ellen <Weitzler.Ellen@epa.gov>; Voorhees, Jeanne <voorhees.jeanne@epa.gov>; Williams, Ann <Williams.Ann@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Sep 19 Lake Memphremagog Call - technical questions follow-up

Thanks Nicole,

I'll route these follow-up questions to the relevant regional subject matter experts and get back to you.

The list of attendees looks good, here is a bit more info about Andrew:

Andrew Spejewski – Office of Environmental Stewardship, EPA Region 1

Best Regards, Paul

From: Nicole.Gibeau@international.gc.ca [mailto:Nicole.Gibeau@international.gc.ca]
Sent: Wednesday, September 26, 2018 12:00 PM
To: Wintrob, Paul <Wintrob.Paul@epa.gov>
Cc: morgan.whalen@canada.ca; Danielle.Chesky@international.gc.ca; guy.letourneau@canada.ca; arash.shahsavarani@canada.ca; SoR@state.gov; LocklearL@state.gov; hilljj@state.gov; DunlapEM@state.gov; Katchinoff, Julien M <katchinoffjm@state.gov>; Teel, Pam <Teel.Pam@epa.gov>; Spejewski, Andrew <Spejewski.Andrew@epa.gov>; Gutro, Doug <Gutro.Doug@epa.gov>; Abele, Ralph <abele.ralph@epa.gov>; Weitzler, Ellen <Weitzler.Ellen@epa.gov>; Voorhees, Jeanne <voorhees.jeanne@epa.gov>; Williams, Ann <Williams.Ann@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Sep 19 Lake Memphremagog Call - technical questions follow-up

Hi Paul,

Once again, a big thank you for the call last week. It was very much appreciated.

Please find below a list of our follow up questions. Essentially, we'd like to get a solid sense of exactly where the project is in the permitting process and, to the extent possible, a better sense of the water quality monitoring requirements currently in place and expected to be in place under the new permits (understanding that this information may not be entirely available at this point). I hope these questions are clear and am happy to discuss/elaborate further.

I've also included a list of participants on last week's call. Please let me know if there are any errors in/additions to the U.S. list.

Thanks again for your ongoing help,

Nicole

Not for Public Distribution

- During the call, it was noted that a draft facility permit (we understand this is the Solid Waste Management Facility Permit) was published in earlier this summer, the public comment period is over, and Vermont is expected to issue a response.
  Question: when does Vermont expect to issue the Solid Waste Management Facility Permit? If we understand correctly, once the Solid Waste Management Facility Permit has been granted, the Act 250 process will resume. Can we please get clarification of the permitting and Act 250 process and a timeline?

- We understand that two additional permits will be required for landfill leachate:
  1) Pre-treatment permit issued to New England Waste Services Vermont (NEWSVT) by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, which will require testing of leachate before treatment at WWTFs.
  Question: is there an expected timeframe for this updated permit to be complete? Can we find out more about testing that will be required under this permit?

  2) WWTF Discharge permit, issued to the City of Newport by Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation. The current permit is over ten years old and issuance of the new permit was pending while awaiting results of studies. Expect to have this permit out next year (2019).
  Questions:
  Can you please confirm whether this is the earlier permit, issued in 2004: https://anrweb.vt.gov/PubDocs/DEC/WSMD/Wastewater/permits/3-1241/3-1241_factsheet.pdf?
  Can you please provide more information on the studies, referred to above, required before issuance of the new permit?
  Can you please confirm that we understand the following correctly: testing on effluent, including toxicity, from the landfill is currently taking place. The results of this testing will determine the testing and monitoring requirements for the new permit to be issued in 2019. Is this testing what was being referred to, above?
  How do these two permits, pre-treatment and discharge, fit into the overall process for the landfill expansion? Can the expansion proceed before new permits are issued?

- During the call it was noted that VT has been quite aggressive in setting standards for PFAS. In 2016, Vermont updated its health advisory for drinking water to 20 parts per trillion.
  Questions:
  How does the 20 ppt compare across the U.S. and to EPA national standards?
  Does this standard apply to all classes of Vermont waters, like the Class B Lake Memphremagog? Does it apply within the water body itself or "at the tap" once water has been treated?

- We understand VT is considering requirements for PFAS testing in new permits for landfill.
  Questions:
  Which permits may require PFAS testing?
  We understand, from news reports, that issuance of permits has been delayed until PFAS testing done. Could you share more information about PFAS testing that was done (e.g., was PFAS testing done on groundwater, lakewater, or both? Is it the Solid Waste Management Facility Permit that was delayed for this testing, or other permits as well?).

- Ongoing water quality monitoring in the lake: under the Clean Water Act, states must have a monitoring program and report to EPA every other year. VT DEC does monitoring.
  - **Question:** could we please have more information about the lake water monitoring being done by VT on Memphremagog (e.g., frequency, parameters, etc.)? Are there any plans to update/change these requirements based on the results of current studies being done re: the landfill?

Canada

Not for Public Distribution

Danielle Chesky - Canadian Embassy Washington
Nicole Gibeau – U.S. Transboundary Affairs Division, Global Affairs Canada
Steve Cobham - Bilateral Affairs and Trade Directorate, Environment and Climate Change Canada
Morgan Whalen - Bilateral Affairs and Trade Directorate, Environment and Climate Change Canada
Arash Shahsavarani - Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance, Environment and Climate Change Canada
Guy Létourneau - Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance, Environment and Climate Change Canada

U.S.

Julien Katchinoff – Office of Canadian Affairs, Department of State
Ellen Dunlap – U.S. Embassy Ottawa
Rachel So – U.S. Embassy Ottawa
Pam Teel - Canada Program Manager, Environmental Protection Agency
Jeanne Voorhees – Regional Water Quality Standards, EPA Region 1
Andrew Spejewski – EPA Region 1
Paul Wintrob – International Coordinator, EPA Region 1
Ralph Abele - Chief, Water Quality Branch, EPA Region 1

From: Wintrob, Paul [mailto:Wintrob.Paul@epa.gov]
Sent: September-19-18 4:25 PM
To: Gibeau, Nicole -NGB; morgan.whalen@canada.ca; Chesky, Danielle -WSHDC -EN; guy.letourneau@canada.ca; arash.shahsavarani@canada.ca; SoR@state.gov; LocklearL@state.gov; hilljj@state.gov; DunlapEM@state.gov; Katchinoff, Julien M; Teel, Pam; Spejewski, Andrew; Gutro, Doug; Abele, Ralph; Weitzler, Ellen; Voorhees, Jeanne; Williams, Ann
Subject: Sep 19 Lake Memphremagog Call - technical questions follow-up

Good Afternoon,

Just in case MS Outlook gives you trouble accessing my contact information I thought I'd send a quick follow-up email. I'm happy to coordinate any Region 1 technical questions regarding: water quality standards; the landfill's expansion certification request, the landfill's pre-treatment permit, the Newport POWT's discharge permit both the current 2004 permit and the forthcoming 2019 permit, etc. (I'll get them to the appropriate subject matter experts and report back with their responses.)

Email: wintrob.paul@epa.gov
Direct Phone Line: 617.918.1514

Regards,

Paul

617.918.1514
EPA Region 1

Not for Public Distribution